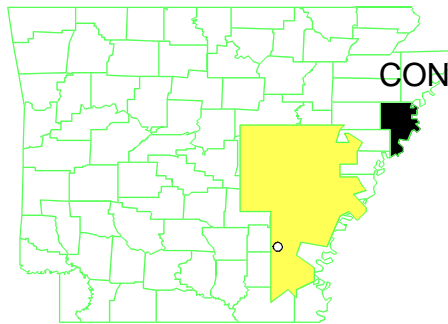


GURLEY PIT

ARKANSAS

EPA ID# ARD035662469



EPA REGION 6

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 01

Crittenden County

Updated: July 7, 1997

Site Description

- Location:**
- Northeast portion of Arkansas.
 - One mile north of Edmondson, Crittendon County, Arkansas.
 - Northwest corner of intersection of County Roads 14 and 175.
- Population:**
- Edmondson, 286
- Setting:**
- Nearest residence is adjacent to site.
 - Nearest drinking water well is 2.2 miles southeast.
 - Rural Area (5 residences within 0.5 mile radius of the site).
 - Primary land use in the vicinity of the site is agricultural.
- Hydrology:**
- Nine feet to ground water.
 - Site is located in the 100-year floodplain of Fifteen Mile Bayou.
 - Site is underlaid by 24 to 42 feet of low permeability clays.

Wastes and Volumes

- The principal pollutants at the Gurley Pit Superfund site include PCB (sludge and oil), barium, lead and zinc (surface water, soil and sludge).
- The volume of pollutants include 20,000 yd³ of sludge. The pits were de-watered in summer 1989.

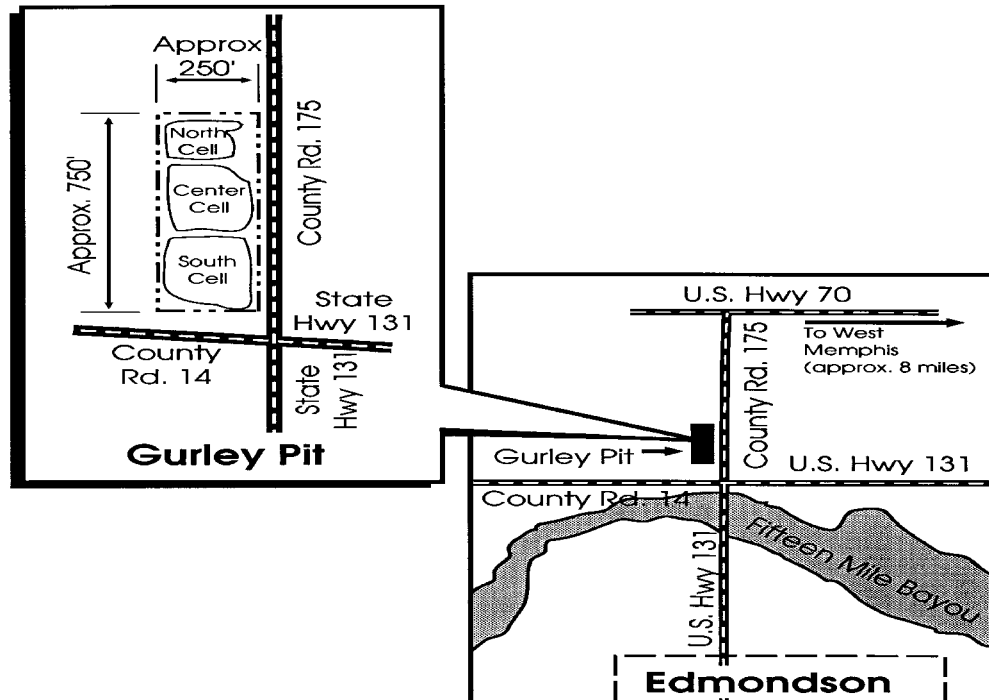
Site Assessment and Ranking

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Site HRS Score: 40.13
Proposed Date: 12/30/82
Final Date: 9/08/82
NPL Update: No. Original

- The Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology (ADPC&E) noted a concern with the aquifer designation. The U.S. Department of Interior noted that the site discharged contaminants to Fifteen-Mile Bayou, and that a light oil slick posed a threat to migratory water fowl. Comments did not affect the score.

Site Map and Diagram



The Remediation Process

Site History:

- Gurley Refinery leased property from R. A. Caldwell in 1970.
- 1970 to 1975 - Gurley used pit on property to dispose of waste.
- 1976 - lease terminated, pit abandoned.
- July 1978 - area flooded, causing emergency cleanup of oil from pit by EPA.
- After a flood in 1979, EPA performed an emergency removal of oil from the pit and installed drains and pumps to remove accumulated storm water.
- In May 1984, the Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) installed a fence and repaired dikes.
- August 1989 - Emergency Removal performed by the PRPs to lower water level in the pits and reinforce berms.
- August 1990 - Trial on liability and past costs.

Health Considerations:

- Direct contact and public use of shallow aquifer as a source of drinking water.

Other Environmental Risks:

- Pit has overflowed into a nearby stream. The pit poses a threat to surface water and water fowl.

Record of Decision

Signed: October 6, 1986 (Source Control)
September 26, 1988 (Ground Water)

Source Control:

- Stabilize sludges and place within an onsite Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) vault.
- Treat and discharge water.

Ground Water:

- A Feasibility Study was not conducted since the Remedial Investigation indicated that the ground water contained no site-related contaminants and that the potential for future contamination would be prevented by the implementation of the source control remedy (i.e. - no need for further action).

Other Remedies Considered

1. No Action
2. Stabilize and cap
3. Stabilize in place
4. Incineration offsite

Reason Not Chosen

Already releases from site
Complete stabilization not possible due to
high organic content of waste
(same as above)
Transportation and safety problem/cost

Community Involvement

- Community Involvement Plan: 04/84, revised 01/88.
- Open houses and workshops: 12/92; 1/93; 3/93; 12/93; 5/94; 8/94.
- Original Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting: Source 05/86; Ground water 08/88.
- Original ROD Fact Sheet: Source 01/87; Ground water 10/88.
- Milestone Fact Sheets: Update released 1/90; Fact Sheet 01/93; Fact Sheet 10/94
- Citizens on site mailing list: 39
- Constituency Interest: Low organized interest; individual interest appears high.
 - Major concern is the odor and danger of children falling into the pits.
 - Locals are concerned about the safety of eating fish.
- Site Repository: Edmondson City Hall, Edmondson, Arkansas

Technical Assistance Grant

- Availability Notice: 01/89
- Letters of Intent Received: None
- Grant Award: N/A

Contacts

- **Remedial Project Manager (EPA):** Ernest Franke, 214/665-8521, Mail Sta. 6SF-AP
- **State Contact:** Devon Hobby (ADPC&E)
- **Community Involvement Coord. (EPA):** Donn Walters, 214/665-6483, Mail Sta. 6SF-PO
- **Attorney (EPA):** Ann Foster, 214/665-2169, Mail Sta. 6SF-DL
- **State Coordinator (EPA):** Robie Hirt, 214/665-8079, Mail Sta. 6SF-AP
- **Prime Contractor:** U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

Cost Recovery:

- PRPs Identified: R. A. Caldwell, Gurley Refining Company, Inc;
Gurley Refining Co., William Gurley, Betty Gurley, Larry Gurley.
- Viable PRP: Gurley Refining Co., William Gurley, Larry Gurley.

Benefits

- A fence was constructed and the site was secured in December 1992.
- Baseline air monitoring was also initiated during the same time frame.
- Construction of the RCRA vault was completed in the Fall of 1994. De-watering of the solidified materials within the vault is expected to take 6 months to 1 year.